

January 9, 2008

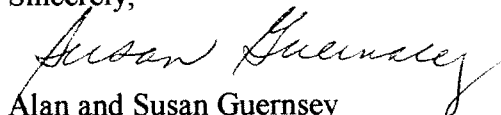
To the Surface Transportation Board:

As you are seeing, the railroad tracks being purchased by the Canadian National Railroad run across five of our heavily traveled roads. Long freight trains often cover two main roads at once particularly Hough Street and Route 14. Some 60 Union Pacific commuter trains a day already run across Hough Street and Lake Cook Road.

Barrington is a large and sprawling suburb. The danger that these extra trains will cause will be great. Emergency vehicles will not be able to get to fires, accidents, or the hospitals causing injury and death because of an increased response time. To me that is enough reason, but school buses cross those tracks over 300 times a day, commuters only have Hough and Rt. 14 to get to the train station, businesses will suffer because no one will deal with the traffic to shop or do business in town, and the people who live near the tracks (and there are many) will never sleep with the train whistles and noise. I truly believe that the increase in these trains will ruin our suburb causing horrible economic harm to say nothing of the environmental damage and safety concerns.

Seeing that this is big business, we may not have any say in the devastation to our community. If this is so, please insist that under and over passes be constructed. I can't imagine how awful the process will be, but at least if there is an emergency, the ambulance will be able to get the patient to the hospital or the fire truck will be able to save the lives of the fire victims.

Sincerely,



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